of the new agency, whether the nominee was Elizabeth Warren or anyone else, unless Congress stripped the agency of its independence and of the powers to protect consumers from the abuses that were rampant in the last decade.

In the next day or two, the other body will vote on the confirmation of Richard Cordray to head the CFPB. If the vote goes as expected, Republicans will abuse their constitutional confirmation powers to hobble the new agency. They don’t want Elizabeth Warren. They don’t want Richard Cordray. They don’t want anyone because they don’t want the agency, and they don’t want the agency because they don’t want to protect consumers.

Republicans are willing to leave consumers vulnerable again to predatory lending practices. They’re willing to leave the economy vulnerable again to another financial crisis to please their friends on Wall Street.

OVERREGULATING DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS ENDANGERS AMERICANS’ HEALTH AND HEALTH

(Mr. HULTGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over another example of rampant government regulations.

For 17 years, the Food and Drug Administration has sought to ignore congressional intent and create a vast new regulatory regime for dietary supplements. Millions of Americans, including many of my constituents and my family, rely on dietary supplements as part of their everyday health maintenance routine. Moreover, they play an important role in ensuring that people take individual responsibility for preventative health care. We all can agree that we do not want to limit Americans’ access to dietary supplements.

In January President Obama issued an Executive order to ensure that the FDA’s new rules will not limit access. Last week, the comment period on the FDA’s draft guidance closed. Now that they’ve heard from the public, and now that I’m sure they’ve heard from countless Americans who share my concern, I urge them to go back to the drawing board and ensure that they do not limit Americans’ access to dietary supplements.

TAX BREAKS FOR RACING INTERESTS—NO ACTION ON PAYROLL TAX CUT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXTENSION

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, at a recent horse sale in Kentucky, Breeder’s Cup winner Royal Delta sold for $8.5 million as part of the sale of the late Saudi Prince Saud bin Khaled’s farm. Three of the Saudi’s other horses also sold for seven figures. A total of 22 horses were sold that day for $1 million or more, compared with only eight sold in 2010.

Every millionaire who purchased these horses benefited from a Republican-sponsored taxpayer subsidy written into the latest farm bill. It allows them to recover the cost of the horse. Even as they call for more budget cuts, Republicans used that bill to transfer wealth—nearly $500 million—from the pockets of ordinary taxpayers to the coffers of wealthy racing interests.

This is just one example of how Republicans will go to absurd lengths to support the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans while turning their backs on the middle class and working families.

Now they refuse to take up a payroll tax cut extension and expansion that would mean $1,500 for 160 million people while they protect the tax breaks for $350,000-plus incomes. They refuse to extend unemployment insurance to save 200,000 jobs.

Our Nation deserves better leadership than this. Republicans need to stop giving out handouts to millionaire racetrack owners and start addressing the needs of the vast majority of American families.

SAFE-GUARDING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

(Mr. REYES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of people in this country, including the 55 million seniors, disabled workers, widows, and children currently receiving Social Security benefits that have their Social Security unnecessarily targeted as part of the debt reduction talks. Now, more than ever, we cannot jeopardize the earned benefits of seniors who have worked so hard over their lifetime to retire with dignity. Every senior deserves dignity in their retirement.

For almost two-thirds of America’s seniors, Social Security is the primary source of retirement income. Social Security is also a lifeline for workers who became disabled and for families who have lost a breadwinner. In the 16th District of Texas that I represent, over 98,000 El Pasanos receive Social Security benefits. They depend on these benefits to buy groceries, pay utility bills, and fill their gas tanks.

As their Representative, I want to ensure that we uphold the decades-old promise to the American worker, to the beneficiaries of the Social Security program, and to the children of these workers.

GIVE SOMETHING BACK THIS SEASON

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I rise to encourage my colleagues to give a little something back this season to those who give so much.

Every year we accumulate thousands of frequent flyer miles as we travel between our districts and Washington, DC. For the past several years, I’ve donated my frequent flyer miles to the Fisher House’s Hero Miles Program, which provides first-class plane tickets to American soldiers and their families, and to the Children’s Miracle Network, a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children.

Most of my frequent flyer miles this year came from congressional travel, and I don’t think it’s right to use them for myself. What I do know is that there is no better way for us to use our frequent flyer miles than to help troops and their families see each other, or to help sick kids get well.

I encourage each of my colleagues to join me and donate the frequent flyer miles you receive for government-funded congressional travel to programs like the Fisher House and the Children’s Miracle Network, and to do it this holiday season.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE
December 8, 2011